The Sun.

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In Four Days, or Not for Four Years.

Whether the movement to increase President ROOSEVELT'S compensation begins in the House or in the Senate is of no consequence.

Whether the Maynard bill or the Stewart bill is utilized as the vehicle for this measure of justice and public self-respect makes little difference.

The main thing is that the thing shall be done while it can be done.

It cannot be done after noon on Saturday next. Four days and a half, at the most, remain.

The question of the President's salary ought to be detached from all others, for obvious reasons of expedition and safety.

The Acquittal of Judge Swayne.

The acquittal of Judge CHARLES SWAYNE, impeached before the Senate of high crimes and misdemeanors on the flimsiest of evidence, is a result of his trial which was inevitable from the moment the accusations against him were formulated by the House of Representatives.

Even in the impeaching body itself there was manifested so decided a change from the first impression of Judge SWAYNE'S guilt of impeachable offences that it became doubtful if eventually any articles of impeachment would be presented to the Senate.

The Judiciary Committee, in a hastily considered report, had unanimously recommended impeachment, yet it had differed widely as to the grounds, a minority consenting only to the single charge of the collection by Judge SWAYNE from the Treasury of more money than he paid out actually for his daily expenses when holding court away from his home, in accordance with a construction of the statute relating to the matter usually made by United States Judges. In the middle of last December the sentiment of the House of Representatives was indicated in a vote which showed 198 for impeachment to 61 against. About a month later, however, the majority in favor of even the "strongest" charge, relating to an alleged overcharging for expenses, was reduced to 6, the vote being 165 to 159.

The more the case against Judge SWAYNE was examined the more evident became the frivolousness and flimsiness of the charges against him in the articles of impeachment, so that when the time came for the sitting of the Senate for their trial no expectation of a conviction by it remained in the impeaching body, even among Judge SWAYNE'S stoutest partisan opponents; and practically the United States Senate has gone through a mere form of trial to reach a foregone conclusion.

Of course, the acquittal of Judge SWAYNE on every charge is important to him as a personal exculpation; but its momentous consequences are in its vindication of the honor and the purity of the Federal judiciary, inconsiderately brought in question by an impeachment on grounds which could not be sustained by evidence of a kind to produce conviction in the minds of the Senate or in any mind which examined them fairly and intelligently.

In the course of the proceedings Judge SWAYNE'S counsel, ex-Senator HIGGINS and ex-Senator THURSTON, contributed a valuable argument on the history of the process of impeachment and "removal by address," for which no provision is made in our Federal Constitution. Outside of this, nothing illuminating or of permanent value has developed in the trial. If the result teaches the lesson that impeachment proceedings are not to be entered upon lightly or for trivial reasons the incident will not be without benefit.

The Flag and the Schools.

Dr. WOODROW WILSON, the president of Princeton University, doubts "the utility of the worship of the flag now taught in the public schools."

The respect and honor for the national emblem inculcated in the public schools cannot properly be called "worship"; but, of course, President WILSON used the term loosely. His meaning is that the cultivation of the sentiment of passionate patriotism by the exaltation of that material emblem seems to him of doubtful expediency.

Veneration for the flag, however, may be said to take the place of the religious instruction and worship in our public schools which are made impossible by the variations and conflicts of the different schools of theology and philosophy; but is not such a substitute desirable, even requisite?

To teach children to honor the flag is to teach them reverence for law as expressed in the State, of which the flag is the symbol. Such instruction has the advantage of being supported by the facts of the observation and experience of the children. They are admonished of the penalty of disobedience to the law in the arrest and punishment of criminals. That penalty is not put off to a future state of existence, but its actual administration is before their eyes daily. Every policeman they see represents to them the majesty of the law and the danger and pain which infraction of the law brings.

The flag, therefore, is for them something more than merely a patriotic symbol. It has a moral efficacy in representing the dignity and the order of the social organization and the power of the State for their preservation.

More especially in this country, and most of all in this city, the most varied in its race composition of any community in the world, where the public schools must be efficient agents in the assimilation of all those many elements, is it necessary that the national emblem of power and order should be kept before the children for reverence and passionate devotion.

Stern Necessity.

It is satisfactory to know that the Public Buildings Appropriation bill provides for real necessities only. It ministers to the wants of vast populations. It is such a bill as Spartans with a horror of a deficit might be expected to make.

Clarinda, the London of Iowa, has a population of 3,275 and the Hon. WILLIAM PETERS HEPBURN. A hive of millions and a capital of statesmanship, Clarinda, the fair Clarinda, is down for a $45,000 post office. The interest on $45,000 at 4 per cent. is $1,800. At present the rent of the Clarinda post office is $628. Such a building is too mean for Mr. HEPBURN to get his mail in. A $100,000 Mullettian Renaissance post office with a full set of domes would be none too magnificent.

Yazoo City, on the Yazoo, has a population of 4,448 and the Hon. JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS. Yet it is proposed to give Yazoo City only $40,000 of pork. This discrimination against Yazoo City and Mr. WILLIAMS is especially disgusting in this time of Democratic Republicans and Republican Democrats. Pork should be distributed per capita and without favoritism.

Paris, of Tennessee, is in the district of the Hon. THETUS WILLRETTE SIMMS. Population, 2,018; proposed appropriation for public building, $50,000; postal receipts, $6,700.

So the good work is spread through the bill. In the noble words uttered in the House by the Hon. MORRIS SHEPPARD of the First Texas District, Feb. 14:

"Of what are the American people in the greatest need—of court houses or battleships? * * * The sum appropriated by the present naval bill is more than sufficient to erect a $50,000 building in every town and city in the Union of 2,500 inhabitants."

If the Senate will knock the battleships out of the Naval Appropriation bill, and the economists in both branches of the Congress unite upon the greatest need of the American people, Mr. SHEPPARD'S generous aspiration may be made fact. Shall there not be among statesmen one equal temper of heroic pork? If there is to be a deficit, luxuries like battleships should have no show.

The True Cause of Europe's Naval Expansion.

In the memorable debate which took place last week in the French Chamber of Deputies on the naval bill introduced by M. THOMPSON, the new Minister of Marine, not a word was said about the recent additions made to the United States Navy. Evidently our "big stick" has no terrors for the French Republic.

Had there been anywhere a lurking apprehension that Mr. ROOSEVELT'S naval policy might prove detrimental to the national interests of France, which next to Great Britain has of all European Powers the largest stake in the New World, it must have found utterance in the course of the anxious and prolonged discussion. As a matter of fact all the speakers declared that what their country had to fear was the huge enlargement of the German Navy that for some years has been going on and is to continue until 1917, at which date, it was pointed out, Germany's strength upon the ocean would be, as compared with that of France, unless this also should quickly be augmented, in the proportion of five to four. By the seldom paralleled vote of 450 out of the 591 members that compose the Chamber, a number of whom were absent, the Ministry of Marine was directed to begin forthwith the execution of a naval programme that would involve the expenditure on new warships of twenty million dollars annually for five years.

On the other side of the British Channel there has been no attempt to conceal the real cause of the tremendous increase in the appropriations for the navy and of the remarkable change lately ordered in the distribution of the British fleets. Far from regarding with misgiving the recent development of the sea power of the United States, the British Admiralty regard it with complacency, believing that their country's interests are never again likely to conflict with those of the great American republic, which is not only the champion of the Monroe Doctrine, and as such bound to maintain the *status quo* in the New World, but also the principal purveyor of foodstuffs to the United Kingdom. Neither, of late, since the former causes of dissension have been removed and a treaty of arbitration has been concluded between the British and French Governments, has Great Britain evinced any jealousy of the French naval force, although this on paper, and doubtless for the moment in reality also, ranks second on the list of naval powers.

On the contrary it is frankly admitted in and out of Parliament that the German naval programme, which will be completed twelve years hence, if not earlier, constitutes a serious menace to the outlying constituents of the British Empire, if not to the United Kingdom itself. Having but a very few outlying points to defend, Germany will eventually be able to concentrate on a given objective a considerably larger force than Britain could readily muster for the safeguarding of the place assailed. The British Isles themselves, if they are to remain inviolate, need a new scheme of naval protection facing the south shore of the North Sea, to which end the British Admiralty have decided not only to withdraw practically all of the warships heretofore stationed in the West Indies, but also to make such changes in the composition and localization of the so-called Atlantic, Mediterranean, Channel and Home squadrons as shall permit them to keep permanently centralized an irresistible force on the eastern and southeastern coasts of England.

We ourselves are deeply interested in the strengthening of the French Navy resolved upon by the Chamber of Deputies. It is highly improbable that France would side with Russia in a policy hurtful to our interests in the Far East, and assuredly we have naught to fear from her so far as the New World is concerned. On the contrary, she is keenly alive to the fact that our good will is of great importance to her, being well aware that in her transatlantic possessions she has given hostages to fortune. There is, indeed, but little doubt that if an international conference were called for the purpose we could depend on the adhesion of France, as well as on that of Great Britain, to a compact whereby the chief lanes of commerce that traverse the Atlantic should be permanently neutralized. Such a compact would obviously be a triumph of diplomacy. We repeat that we probably could rely on the cooperation of France toward such a beneficent achievement, and for that reason we well may wish more power to her naval arm.

It is Emperor WILLIAM, and not President ROOSEVELT, who is responsible for the actual inordinate outlays of the chief European nations on the distention of their sea power.

Antioslerism in Chicago.

Dr. WILLIAM OSLER'S paradoxes are hurled back with particular indignation by Chicago. She is good enough to die young, but she is determined to reach old age. It is an intellectual, as well as a physical and moral, victory to survive in all that nerve-nagging ocean of sound, that sheol of trolleys, that choked, fuliginous and airless atmosphere. In Chicago old age seems, to the extra-Chicagoan observer, a paradox greater than those of Dr. OSLER.

The National Promotion of Health Club of Chicago is known, or ought to be, wherever there are club chairs to sit in or healths to promote. If anybody is healthy, if anybody is old, that club is the cause of it. Consequently, we have not taken the trouble to say much about the forty-year limit and the superfluous lagging of those who have passed it. We knew that the N. P. O. H. C. would take care of that.

It has taken care. We stand by the brave and beautiful words of Mrs. E. CORNELIA CLAFLIN, president of the club:

"Has life no beacon star that leads man on to a serene and glorious old age? Is there no time when, standing on the summit of experience, he may hold out a helping hand to the unexperienced? Have we not learned that a man's bones, nerves, muscles, are constructed to endure 400 years?"

We have. Not from Dr. OSLER, perhaps, but from less prejudiced and less professional authorities. And why stop at 400? Why not go on forever? Mrs. CLAFLIN gives a few simple rules, which we recommend to the Don't Die clubs:

"Breathe properly by taking series of long, deep breaths in rhythm.

"Bathe daily in cold water. Use sponge if you can't stand the plunge.

"Eat more whole wheat.

"Eat properly prepared food.

"Sleep regular hours.

"Sleep out of doors as much as possible, even if you have to use a Klondike sleeping bag.

"Don't worry."

To which we add humbly this prescription: Buy an annuity.

The Policy of the Employers' Association.

In *Harper's* for March President CHARLES W. ELIOT gives his views of the proper policy and attitude of employers' associations. He regards these organizations as "the most striking fact in the development of the industrial combat during the last two years." In his opinion they are a logical and inevitable outcome of conditions which have forced employers, for the safety of their business interests, into combination. He predicts public disapproval and consequent failure for all such institutions whose aim is, "like the habitual effort of every labor union," the attainment of a monopoly. A self-seeking monopoly of labor and a self-seeking monopoly of capital he declares to be "equally dangerous and detestable."

Illustrating what he evidently regards as a laudable policy, President ELIOT cites eight specific objects which were recently adopted by a Boston association. They are:

1. No closed shops.
2. No restriction as to the use of tools, machinery or materials except such as are unsafe.
3. No limitation of output.
4. No restriction as to the number of apprentices and helpers—when of proper age.
5. No boycott.
6. No sympathetic strike.
7. No sacrifice of the independent workman to the labor union.
8. No compulsory use of the union label.

President ELIOT subjects each of these proposals to analysis and finds each and all to be good. In this judgment all right thinking men will undoubtedly concur.

His second test relates to the probable effect of these measures, or any others which may be adopted. Will they tend to promote good will between employers and employed? So far as this test applies to the eight propositions which Dr. ELIOT quotes, it must be recognized that, in spite of their essential soundness, they will only excite the bitter animosity of organized labor. Each of them strikes at some article in the creed of the unionism of to-day. If Mr. GOMPERS and his followers saw them in the light in which they appear to Dr. ELIOT, the public might hail the dawn of an economic millennium. To that group every one of them is a gage of battle.

Yet these propositions are as right and sound, by every test of good morals, as is that rule upon which Dr. ELIOT enlarges as his second proposition, that of mutual good will and realization and recognition of mutual dependence. In a community of industrial interest in the processes of production there doubtless lies the solution of our economic problems.

"Employees," says a sage, "are an army set to protect the community against cold and hunger as our soldiers are set to protect us against armed invasion. Their payment is a fair wage. They are officered by the employers, to whom there belongs a fair profit." To this it might be added that the eight propositions laid down by Dr. ELIOT are the rules and regulations of the army. Careful observance of them and the establishment of that "mutual good will" upon which Dr. ELIOT lays even greater emphasis would relieve the community of some of its greatest evils.

Water.

Mayor McCLELLAN has explained the absolute necessity which exists of obtaining an additional supply of water for the city of New York. Regardless of politics those citizens who are aware of the present conditions have accepted his statements and supplemented his statistics. The city needs relief, and needs it now.

So far the Legislature, which is the only body competent to authorize the city to make the expenditures it must if it is to protect itself, has shown no disposition to move. Apparently it is not decided yet whether Mayor McCLELLAN'S excellent suggestions for a non-political commission of experts shall be adopted, or whether a State commission, partisan, bi-partisan, or non-political in its composition, shall supervise the work, or whether nothing shall be done at all to meet the city's needs.

The bi-partisan commission system is hopelessly discredited. The chief witnesses against it are the records of the bi-partisan Police Commissions and the bi-partisan Aqueduct Commission. Should the work be intrusted to a partisan State commission the taxpayers of the city would have cause to view the future with gloomy forebodings. Can they hope for a non-political commission of experts from Albany?

Mayor McCLELLAN has suggested the proper, economical, and scientific solution of New York's water supply problem. He should have the prompt and hearty assistance of the Governor and the Legislature in his efforts to carry his plan into effect.

One episode in the political life of the late EDWARD COOPER has passed generally without notice. He was a delegate at large from New York to the Democratic national convention of 1884, which adopted as part of its platform this declaration on the tariff question:

"But in making reduction in taxes, it is not proposed to injure any domestic industries, but rather to promote their healthy growth. From the foundation of this Government, taxes collected at the custom house have been the chief source of Federal revenue. Such they must continue to be. Moreover, many industries have come to rely upon legislation for successful continuance, so that any change of law must be at every step regardful of the labor and capital thus involved. The process of reform must be subject in the execution to this plain dictate of justice."

Four years later, in the Democratic national convention of 1888, held in St. Louis, Mr. COOPER was again a delegate from New York and was the representative of this State on the committee of resolutions which adopted the platform. The great majority of the delegates of the convention were committed to a radical declaration on the tariff. Mr. COOPER, an ironmaster, a manufacturer with extensive interests, and a business man in the front rank of those who had contributed to the great industrial progress of the Empire State, favored a renewal of the pledge made by the party four years before, under which it had been successful. He resisted, as New York representatives have frequently had to do in Democratic national conventions, the adoption of radical, if not incendiary, declarations. He was outvoted —New York was outvoted—in the platform committee; and when the committee reported, its chairman said:

"The chairman desires to state that there is a slight mistake in saying that the committee were unanimous, because as to a part of the platform Mr. EDWARD COOPER of New York dissents."

The platform was adopted against the protest of New York, registered by Mr. COOPER. At the election New York was lost to the Democratic party, and its electoral vote secured the success of the Republican candidate, who would have been defeated without it.

We are sure that District Attorney JEROME will not permit any compromise with the man ANDREWS, indicted for forgery and suspected of grave irregularities with reference to estates of which his employer, the late ANDREW H. GREEN, was trustee. For the vindication of the memory of Mr. GREEN, so scrupulous in all his dealings, the case against ANDREWS should be tried promptly and thoroughly.

Whether or not there is to be a strike of the Chicago window washers and janitors this week, their secretary, the secretary of the International Union of Office Building Employees, has struck his lyre hard. This lyrist, the Hon. JAMES McLEAN, is one of the sweetest of Western poets, as this impromptu shows:

"Hurrah for the boys of the broom and the mop,
And the men who are never afraid;
For the washers of windows who hang on the top
Of the skyscrapers plying their trade."

A louder and heartier hurrah for the janitor poet!

The Tubbs anti-tipping bill has been defeated in the Missouri Legislature. TUBBS is a marked man. Will any waiter wait on TUBBS? Will TUBBS have to be fed at public expense and wait on himself? The fate of TUBBS has yet to be decided.

If the Hon. ROBERT MARION LA FOLLETTE of Wisconsin comes into full possession of all the rights, privileges and perquisites attaching to Senatorial courtesy upon making his initial appearance in the Senate of the United States, and the Hon. JOHN COIT SPOONER retains all of his rights, privileges and perquisites, the proceedings attendant upon the confirmation of the nomination of the Hon. JOSEPH VERY QUARLES to be United States Judge for the Eastern District of Wisconsin will resemble a tug of war. They will be exceedingly interesting to all onlookers.

Plea for a Public Service Corporation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I hope the authorities will listen to the Brooklyn Ferry Company's plea for lower taxes. It is the only way to reach that borough and keep one's self-respect.

Thousands of people take it who cannot stand the brutality at the Bridge. Without the ferries the bridges would be unbearable. New bridges or subways will give us no relief, for only enough cars will be run to pack the people in.

The ferries are a great relief to the horses that work along shore, saving the long trip over the bridge and down to the docks. The ferries are a necessity, as they receive the overflow of the bridges. Compel the Brooklyn trolleys to give us better service at the ferries, and the relief to the bridges will be greater. G.

BROOKLYN, Feb. 25.

Subjects of Conversation.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It is always interesting to me to observe the subjects of conversation most frequently introduced and most earnestly discussed among the people at any given time, and now, when lists of the most circulated novels are published weekly, what is most talked about may also deserve consideration.

At present the three subjects I hear most talked of in every company into which I enter, either in business circles or in people's leisure, are: 1. The sensational dictum of Dr. Osler; 2. The Equitable situation; 3. The consequences of the self-assertion of the Jews in the matter of the State Librarian.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27. R. K. S.

THE SOUTH'S BURDEN.

Mistakes of Reconstruction the Cause of the Negro Problem of To-day.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* President Roosevelt, speaking to the students of the University of Pennsylvania on Washington's Birthday, among other things said:

Again Washington said: "Give to mankind the example of a people always guided by an exalted justice and benevolence." This feeling can be shown alike by our dealings within and without our own borders. Taft and Wright in the Philippines and Wood in Cuba have shown us exactly how to practise this justice and benevolence in dealing with other peoples—a justice and benevolence which can be shown, not by shirking our duty and abandoning to self-destruction those unfit to govern themselves, but by doing our duty by staying with them and teaching them how to govern themselves, by uplifting them spiritually and materially.

When the war between the States ended and emancipation had come to the negroes, it was the serious desire and intent of all Southern planters to carry out in regard to their former slaves the very "justice and benevolence" of which the President speaks. There was no disposition to shirk the duties of the new relations, and no thought of "abandoning to self-destruction those unfitted for self-government," but the honest purpose was to cultivate mutual good will, and "teaching the negroes how to govern themselves by uplifting them in every way." Schoolhouses and churches were built at once for them, and the prospect for pleasant relations seemed bright until the ballot was given to negroes of age, and all negroes were organized into secret political leagues under the Freedmen's bureaus and the military administration.

The South was divided into five military districts, and Thaddeus Stevens's "reconstruction" measures were put into operation, the plan embracing the organization of negroes into a party unto themselves, operating through the "Loyal Leagues." This done, and the negroes removed thereby from the influence of the whites, that "staying" with the negro and that "justice and benevolence," and that "training" for new relations, and that "lifting up" process, were estopped as if by order of the military ruler.

The organization of negroes into these secret Loyal Leagues so fixed relations and conditions that the white people were powerless for teaching or training or uplifting. These leagues detached the negroes from the whites, estranged them, destroyed all trust and confidence in the native whites, and the carpetbaggers and the bureaus controlled. To render the negroes more malleable, and to build a wall between negroes and whites, there came to the leagues a mysterious "exodus order" to the effect that all negroes must leave the old homes, the old farms, the old associations and affiliations, and go elsewhere among strangers.

This dispersion of the negroes from the old homes was an upheaval, hardly any two families going to the same place. The negroes were resolved into units, and the young negroes, growing up without the influences of the old farms and the old negroes, were trained to respect no one. They had no props to sustain them. The old owners could not uplift or do what they wished in the face of these conditions. Thus the white people found their hands tied.

The organization of the negroes into these leagues and the subsequent dispersion from the old homes for political purposes brought more confusion and more loss than the war itself. We lost our grip on the negro forever, and the old landowners for police protection abandoned the plantations and moved their families to the towns and villages—leaving the plantations to some manager.

Under such difficulties has the South struggled, and the progress is wonderful under the adverse circumstances. A study of what was done in the South the first ten years after the war will reveal to the North such facts, such history, as will cause a profound sympathy for the South and a wonder that her conditions at present are as good as they are.

Conditions wrought by the plan of reconstruction prevented whites from teaching and training. Negroes would not listen. The leagues did not permit open ears to our talk. Had we been allowed a hearing those days, the result might have been different and the South saved the negro problem of to-day, the most acute form of which makes prisoners of our white women. No white woman in the negro belt can travel on the public highways in safety. The farmer's wife sits in her home amid fear and trembling. Suspense, fear, dread are hers. She is entitled to freedom at home and on the highways. The negro, product of reconstruction and its leagues, forbids that right.

Our hope is that the North will study that period of reconstruction and learn what was done and how powerless to avert its consequences the Southern people were.

JAMES CALLAWAY.

MACON, Ga., Feb. 23.

The New Jersey Limited Franchise Hearing.

The hearing on Assemblyman Colby's bill to limit municipal franchises for the use of highways to twenty-five years duration was originally appointed for Wednesday evening, March 1. By a change of date the hearing will occur this evening at Trenton, before the House Committee on Municipal Corporations, of which Assemblyman Scovel is the chairman.

The Jewish Foreman of a Jury.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* It was something more than courageous on the part of Abraham Abrams, the foreman of the jury serving before Judge McMahon, when he refused to serve on the same jury with a man mentally and morally low enough to say he "would not believe a Jew under oath."

It was a high tribute to the worth of American citizenship, regardless of race, creed or color, or previous condition of servitude—previous condition of servitude, because the Hebrew is daily reminded in his prayers of the years of slavery his ancestors served in Egypt.

Is the entire race to be condemned, especially in a court of justice, for the waywardness of one of its flock? If such be the origin of the remark, and if it is to be dignified by saying it showed some thought, should it be regarded as a defence of the actions of Melvil Dewey against the Hebrews?

Surely the Sermon on the Mount never taught such doctrines. The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States do not breathe such sentiments.

In an address delivered by President Roosevelt on Washington's Birthday before the students and guests of the University of Pennsylvania, he dignified the speeches of Abraham Lincoln by comparing them with the prophetic utterances of the ancient Hebrew seers.

Would the insolent juror insult the savior of his country also? Has he a leg to stand on?

NEW YORK, Feb. 24. A JEWISH READER.

A Thousand Dollars a Day.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The late Pierre Lorillard once said that a man could not live like a gentleman in New York city on less than $1,000 a day. Which depends, of course, on what Mr. Lorillard's notion of a gentleman was. Accepting for present uses that he meant a man who lived at or near the top of the New York city heap, I should like to ask THE SUN if it will give an estimate of the cost of living in that way in this town. A thousand dollars a day means $365,000 a year, the income on $9,125,000 at 4 per cent., an amount of money possessed by quite a number of New Yorkers. I can understand that a man might recklessly spend even more than this amount, and that even without recklessness, but going to the limit of what might be called necessary to maintain the highest standard of living, a greater amount could be spent. But to give a man all the luxuries, yacht, private car, automobiles, horses, town house, country places, servants and all the incidentals and actuals required by a family, say, of six persons, none of these requisites being of the highest grade, but good enough to maintain the family's fashionable repute—would it cost $365,000 a year?

NEW YORK, Feb. 27. R. E. G.

Advice to a Patient.

Old Graybeard, turn from business toil,
Eschew the pleasures of the town.
Draw up your will; from thought recoil.
You're thirty-nine—and breaking down.
Make way for others hale and strong,
To eager youth fling wide the door;
Some corner seek,
You old antique,
To meditate—you've one year more.

Come, rest on yon reclining chair
Your two dear locks just turned to snow,
And tell your stock of stories rare
Of picturesque ten years ago;
When Old Chicago held its Fair,
When one lone bridge the water spanned
To Brooklyn's shore.
Come, tell us more
Of days when Grover ruled the land.

You cry that still your eye is bright,
Your head erect, your blood like wine,
Your color fresh, and clear your sight.
Tut, tut, old boy! you're thirty-nine.
Consider now the life to come,
Leave action to the man who can—
Let rest and prayers
Become your cares
You're on the road to forty, man!

THOMAS R. YBARRA.

INAUGURATION DAY.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—The American people love a pageant and delight in a parade. The city of Washington is gambling a considerable sum of money on the chance of being able to gratify this proclivity on the part of a few score thousands of our citizens. The extent of the gratification and the value of the investment will depend chiefly on the weather next Saturday. There will be a crowd anyway.

The present expectation is that the crowd which will come to the inauguration of President Roosevelt will stand in the same relation to the crowds which have attended earlier inaugurations that the vote of last November hold toward the majorities of earlier elections. But a crowd in Washington would create hardly a ripple in New York. It is estimated that there will be 250,000 visitors in the city on that day. A saunter along the time honored route of the parade would lead the saunterer to a conclusion that half the world was expected to be on hand. Huge reviewing stands occupy parks and open spaces, while little reviewing stands hang like balcony boxes from the front of buildings.

Pennsylvania avenue has been cleaned of its winter accumulation of ice and snow and dirt, but the exciting question is whether it will stay clean. The column which will march along it on that day will be the most interesting and the most picturesque and variegated that has ever moved along that historic highway. Rough Riders and New York's Squadron A, West Point cadets and commands from the Regular army, State militia, Porto Ricans, Philippine scouts, miners, cowboys and Indians, political clubs and fraternal societies, artillery, cavalry, marines, midshipmen, engineers and Spanish war veterans, and the parade committee knows who else, will, according to the weather, march blithely or splash dolefully from the Capitol to the White House. Good patriots will pray for that which seldom comes—a perfect day for the inauguration.

The ceremonies of the day begin at 11 A. M., when the President starts for the Capitol, where, at 12 o'clock, the oath of office will be administered to Mr. Fairbanks in the Senate chamber, and those who are able to secure entrance will listen to the inaugural address of the Vice-President. At 12:30 o'clock the President is the central figure in a similar proceeding. But the scene of this is outside, on a platform erected on the east front of the Capitol. This ceremonial will be seen by thousands and the inaugural address will be heard by a comparatively small part of them. But many count it the event of a lifetime even to have been within the grounds. After the delivering of the address the crowd will find its way to the seats for which it has paid its money to witness the parade, which, in spite of its unusual size, it is hoped will be concluded in an unusually brief time. Yet three hours is allowed as the time for it to pass the reviewing stand.

In the evening the city will blaze with fireworks, and the crowd will go to dance at the inaugural ball in the huge Pension Building. Tickets for this are $5 each, with an additional dollar for supper. Twelve thousand tickets have been provided, and all will probably be sold, and most of them will be used. As the event occurs on Saturday the grand march, led by the President and a corps of dignitaries and officials, will begin at 9 o'clock, an hour ahead of the usual time. The ball will close at midnight, and another Inauguration Day will pass into history.

If the sun shines, it will be a great day for Washington and for Roosevelt.

A Human Toxophile.

From the Medical Press.

At present there is in Glasgow one Capt. Vetrio, who styles himself the "poison proof man," giving exhibitions in one of the places of entertainment of his ability to swallow lethal doses of certain poisons, such as strychnine, phosphorus, and so on, with apparent impunity. With these we are told he varies his menu by eating glass and flower pots! Before he made his first public appearance a number of medical men responded to his invitation to meet him in the Windsor Hotel, where he swallowed half a grain of strychnine in their presence, and also, we are told, partook in quick succession of considerable doses of paris green, blue indigo, verdigris, and so on, without evil effects. This demonstration, we are further told, concluded by Capt. Vetrio's eating a considerable portion of a stick of phosphorus. He invites medical men to bring their own poison. A letter appeared in the *Glasgow Herald* pointing out the responsibility resting with any medical man, from a medico-legal standpoint, who should, in the event of this man's death, have supplied him with the poison.

Uncared for Streets.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Cannot something be done to stir up the city authorities in regard to the non-removal of ashes and the general bad condition of the streets at the present time? It is a disgrace, I venture to say, that would not be tolerated by any other first-class city in the world.

For a period of more than three weeks there has been in West Eighty-first street an old hot water boiler measuring not less than seven feet in length, not to mention an old wooden spool left evidently for the edification of the small boy by the electric light company, and other old junk. Truly a wonderful and varied collection for a supposedly aristocratic West Side street! CLARENCE A. PITMAN.

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.

The Spring Feeling.

I can feel the Spring a-coming,
I can feel it in my bones,
I can see it in the sunshine,
I can hear it in the tones
Of the changing winds a-blowing
From the land of Summer days
Where the balmy breezes soften
Winter's raw and raucous ways.

There is piled up snow a-plenty
In the city yet awhile,
But it's melting in the presence
Of the sun's returning smile;
The trickling streams of water
That are running from the snow
Are the tears that Winter's shedding
'Cause he knows he has to go.

The crocus with its blooming
Isn't very far along,
And the birds have hardly started
Tuning up their welkin song;
But they're getting good and ready,
And although they may be shy
At plunging into Springtime,
They will get there by and by.

The butterflies ain't butting
Much into these early days,
And the busy bee ain't busy
In his honey making ways,
But they will be, don't you worry,
For the Spring will soon be here
With its waking of the roses
And the rapture of the year.

There may be another blizzard,
For the blizzard is a thing
That is very apt to happen
As a harbinger of Spring;
But though the blizzard blizzes
And the earth is clad in white,
We are firm in our conviction
That the Springtime is in sight.

The boating on the river
Is perhaps not extra fine,
And the air is rather chilly
On the open trolley line;
There isn't much surf bathing
And the Summer Girl ain't here,
But the air is full of rumors
That the Spring is drawing near.

The coal man still is active
And the furnace still is on,
There's a shiver in the breaking
Of the season's early dawn;
An overcoat is useful
And the heavy underwear
Reminds us of the Winter,
But the Spring is in the air.

I can feel it coming nearer,
I can smell the glad perfume
Of a new world budding slowly
Till it blazons into bloom.
Gee whiz.
What a relief Spring is!

WILLIAM H. LAMPTON.

SIENKIEWICZ A CONVERT.

The Polish Author Now Numbered Among the Revolution's Sympathizers.

News of a letter written by Henryk Sienkiewicz, the Polish author of "Quo Vadis," and other novels well known here, to the Russian Minister of the Interior, lamenting the present state of that unfortunate little country, and by implication espousing the cause of the revolutionists, has come by "underground services" to Stanislaus Dembski, leader of the Polish socialist party, who is now in New York.

The letter is anonymous, although it is known to the revolutionists that it came to the Minister from Sienkiewicz. It is entitled: "An Open Letter from a Pole to the Minister of the Interior of Russia." Its authorship is not publicly known even in Poland.

Sienkiewicz is a conservative. Of noble birth, and with wealth and estates, though he is a patriot, as are all Poles, he is still of the aristocratic few in his unhappy land who have endeavored to accept the formation of society as it is.

His opinions are known in Poland to be more than moderate—they are narrow. He has formulated no programme, made no demand. He limited himself in this letter to a simple statement as to the present actual situation of Russian Poland. This is a translation:

"The bureaucracy is absolute master of all the affairs of our unfortunate little country. No local autonomy is in existence. The Polish language is banished from the schools and from the administration of tribunals. Besides this, the civil authorities pursue at all costs the aim of Russianizing the country. That the corruption of the Russian bureaucracy holds everywhere and, above all, in this conquered country, is a fact too well known to be again pointed out.

"Also the religious oppression which is going on is a fact to be observed in no other country of Europe for centuries. The country has not enough schools, nor railroads, nor even proper roads, although the Government taxes the population to excess, ostensibly for these purposes. But the funds thus raised are dispersed in the pockets of the functionaries.

"If Poland is not yet completely ruined, she owes it only to her own vitality and patriotism, which continues in spite of national and religious oppression, in spite of the wicked administration."

The letter has come from the author following a great demonstration of 50,000 persons who gathered recently at Dombrowa. Two causes brought about this concourse. The national Republican committee had at last declared its hatred of Czarism, and there had been a series of massacres and outrages which are cited by the latest bulletins of the "underground service." Cossacks attacked several young bridal couples and their guests as they were emerging from the church at Carmes criminals were turned loose, with permission to pillage and outrage strikers, and 3,000 workmen who had formed before the Governor's house at Radom to listen to a speech were fired upon without warning.

The open sympathy, however anonymously published, of their greatest author is expected to do much to encourage the Polish people. News comes that a detachment of Cossacks which met the great Dombrowa gathering was afraid to attack because of the threatening throng, in which many had drawn revolvers.

According to Mr. Dembski's information troops are being concentrated in Poland and are beginning to surround trains at stations and cross-examine travellers, masses of loot are in the soldiers' quarters, and Cossacks attack those who are on foot in the side streets.

MORTON MAY REVIEW FLEET.

The Secretary Planning to Go to Guantanamo in Place of Dewey.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—It is possible that Secretary of the Navy Morton will go to Guantanamo, Cuba, early next month to review the fleet assembled there. Admiral Dewey had planned to go, but will be unable to do so on account of ill health.

The despatch boat Dolphin is here ready to carry the commanding officer of the Navy to Cuba. If Secretary Morton, who wants to go to Guantanamo, can make the arrangements without conflicting with the President's visit to the West and Southwest, he will probably take the trip. He has already promised to go with the President.

OTHER NOTIONS OF DR. OSLER.

He Recommends a Tax on Bachelors and an Export Duty on Canadian Girls.

From the New York Medical Journal.

Dr. William Osler, according to the *Canadian Practitioner*, addressed the Canadian Club of Toronto on Dec. 29. The reception to Dr. Osler by the four hundred members who were present was most enthusiastic.

Prof. Osler, who was introduced as one who had become the first physician within the British Empire, was received with loud cheers. He addressed his hearers as fellow countrymen, and said it always gave him great satisfaction to return to his old town, where he had received his early education, and where he had so many friends. Taking up the serious part of his subject, Dr. Osler said as Canadians they had three relations to consider—the country to the south, the motherland, and their own Canada. Fortunately or unfortunately, the nation to the south was one of the most powerful on earth. A Briton should be proud of it, for no other nation, ancient or modern, ever had such a child.

A very serious and important influence was that of gravitation, the attraction of the larger body upon the smaller, which caused an incessant dribbling over the border of their young men. A million Canadians were in the States, many in prominent positions in finance and in the professions, particularly in medicine and theology. There they had been successful by reason of two special qualities, industry and thoroughness, the only qualities worth anything in the make-up of a young man. If it were only in the matter of draining away the young men, it would make no difference, as plenty were left to run the country. But a more serious loss was that of the young women. He had a patient once, a neurasthenic young man of thirty or so whose heart was not settled. Dr. Osler asked him why he did not get married. "Because all the girls I wanted have gone to the States," was the reply. Of 651 women engaged in nursing in six of the great Eastern hospitals, 196 were Canadians, an enormous proportion, almost one-third.

"Something should be done," said Dr. Osler, "to stop the loss of the mothers of the country." He suggested two ways. Introduce a tax on bachelors. At 25 or 26 the man who had not a family to support ought to be helping the other fellow, and such a tax would be a reasonable and rational political measure. The other way was an export tax of $100 on every girl who left Canada.

"She's worth more," the doctor remarked, while the club hilariously assented. She was worth $1,000 to the country, and it would pay to give her family that to keep her at home.

Heralds of Spring.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Here is the first genuine sign that spring is in the air. I enclose a skunk cabbage in bloom about two days. It was found at Great Kills, Staten Island, on Sunday, Feb. 26.

Also, I heard the first bluebird merrily singing his song. E. WILSON.

STATEN ISLAND, Feb. 27.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* On Sunday morning, Feb. 26, at Staten Island, I heard the first song sparrow sing. This is one of our earliest birds returning for the approaching warm weather. I watch for them every year and have heard them as early as Feb. 2. WILLIAM SEGUINE.

U. S. M. S. ST. PAUL, Feb. 27.

Past Comprehension.

From the Winchester Sentinel.

B. W. Trimble of the *Mount Sterling Advocate* for the past two Sundays has been preaching at the Court Street Christian Church. We can understand how an editor can be smart enough to preach, but how he can be good enough is past our comprehension.

Tom Watson's Magazine makes its first appearance in a March number, published in this town. It is a singular composite, for it seems to be made on lines suggested by a fusion of the methods of the *Commoner*, the *Smart Set* and *Town Topics*. The Hon. Tom is at the front, naturally and properly; and he has chosen for the emblem of his new publication the Liberty Bell, in representing which the artist has naively or maliciously put undue emphasis upon the crack in the tocsin.